

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 25-40 without prejudice to, or disclaimer of, the subject matter contained therein, amend claims 2-13, 15, 16, and 21, and add new claim 41, as indicated in the following claim listing:

1. (Original) An isolated nucleic acid comprising any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30, or a sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30.
2. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising at least eight consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1-30]] 2-29, or at least eight consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1-30]] 2-29.
3. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid comprising at least 80% nucleotide identity with a nucleic acid comprising any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1-30]] 2-29, or at least 80% nucleotide identity with a sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1-30]] 2-29.
4. (Currently Amended) The isolated nucleic acid according to claim 3, wherein the nucleic acid comprises at least an 85%, 90%, 95%, or 98% nucleotide identity with a nucleic acid comprising any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1-30]] 2-29, or comprises at least an 85%, 90%, 95%, or

98% nucleotide identity with a sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[1-30]] 2-29.

5. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid that hybridizes ~~under high stringency conditions~~ in the presence of 50% formamide and 6X SCC with a nucleic acid comprising any one of SEQ ID NOS:[1-30]] 2-29, or with a nucleic acid comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[1-30]] 2-29.

6. (Currently Amended) A nucleotide probe or primer specific for an ATP-binding cassette, subfamily C, member 11 (ABCC11) gene, wherein the nucleotide probe or primer comprises at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:[1-30]] 2-29, or at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[1-30]] 2-29.

7. (Currently Amended) A nucleotide probe or primer specific for an ABCC11 gene, wherein the nucleotide probe or primer comprises [[a]] the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30, or a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30.

8. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A method of amplifying a region of the nucleic acid according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) contacting the nucleic acid with two nucleotide primers, wherein the first nucleotide primer hybridizes at a position 5' of the region of the nucleic acid to be amplified, and the second nucleotide primer hybridizes at a position 3' of the region of the nucleic acid to be amplified, in the presence of reagents necessary for an amplification reaction; [[and]]
- b) [[amplifying]] amplifying the nucleic acid region; and
- c) detecting the amplified nucleic acid region.

9. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) The method according to claim 8, wherein each nucleic acid primer is independently selected from the group consisting of

- a) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
- b) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
- c) ~~a nucleotide primer as in any one of claims 6-8,~~
- ~~d)~~ a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30, and
- ~~[[e]] d)~~ a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30.

10. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A kit for amplifying the nucleic acid according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) two nucleotide primers whose hybridization position is located respectively 5' and 3' of the region of the nucleic acid to be amplified; and optionally,
- b) one or more reagents necessary for an amplification reaction.

11. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) The kit according to claim 10, wherein each nucleic acid primer is independently selected from the group consisting of

- a) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
- b) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
- c) ~~a nucleotide primer as in any one of claims 6-8,~~
- ~~d) a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30, and~~
- e) a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30.

12. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) The nucleotide probe or primer according to ~~any one of claims 6-8~~ claim 6 or claim 7, wherein the nucleotide probe or primer comprises a marker compound.

13. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A method of detecting a nucleic acid according to claim 1, comprising:

- a) contacting the nucleic acid to be detected with a nucleotide probe selected from the group consisting of
  - i) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of ~~[[a]]~~ the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
  - ii) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
  - iii) ~~[[a]] the nucleotide primer as in any one of claims 6-8, of claim 6 or claim 7,~~
  - iv) a nucleotide primer comprising ~~[[a]]~~ the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:~~[[1]]~~ 2-30, and
  - v) a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:~~[[1]]~~ 2-30; and
- b) detecting a complex formed between the nucleic acid and the probe.

14. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 13, wherein the probe is immobilized on a support.
15. (Withdrawn; Currently Amended) A kit for detecting the nucleic acid according to claim 1, wherein the kit comprises
- a) a nucleotide probe selected from the group consisting of
    - i) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of [[a]] the nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:1-30,
    - ii) a nucleotide primer comprising at least 15 consecutive nucleotides of a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS: 1-30,
    - iii) [[a]] the nucleotide primer ~~as in any one of claims 6-8~~ of claim 6 or claim 7,
    - iv) a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence of any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1]] 2-30, and
    - v) a nucleotide primer comprising a nucleotide sequence complementary to any one of SEQ ID NOS:[[1]] 2-30; and optionally,
  - b) one or more reagents necessary for a hybridization reaction.
16. (Withdrawn) The kit according to claim 15, wherein the probe is immobilized on a support.

17. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid according claim 1.
18. (Original) The vector according to claim 17, wherein the vector is an adenovirus.
19. (Original) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector according to claim 17.
20. (Original) A recombinant host cell comprising the nucleic acid according claim 1.
21. (Currently Amended) An isolated nucleic acid encoding a polypeptide comprising [[an]] the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:31.
22. (Original) A recombinant vector comprising the nucleic acid according to claim 21.
23. (Original) A recombinant host cell comprising the nucleic acid according to claim 21.
24. (Original) A recombinant host cell comprising the recombinant vector according to claim 22.

25.- 40. (Cancelled)

41. (New) An isolated nucleic acid comprising at least five hundred consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, or at least five hundred consecutive nucleotides of the nucleotide sequence complementary to SEQ ID NO:1.